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PATENT
Docket No. 150.0090 0102

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Wang et al.) Group Art Unit: 2813
Serial No.: 09/631,329) Examiner: Schillinger
Filed: 3 August 2000)
For: METHODS OF PASSIVATING AN OXIDE SURFACE SUBJECTED
TO A CONDUCTIVE MATERIAL ANNEAL

APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

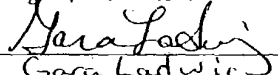
The undersigned attorney of record in the above-identified patent application hereby appoints:

Matthew W. Adams Reg. No. 43,459

to act as an associate agent, and empowers the associate agent to receive all correspondence from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, to amend the specification and drawings, to prosecute the application; and ratifies any act done by the associate agent in respect of the application or any related application thereto.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

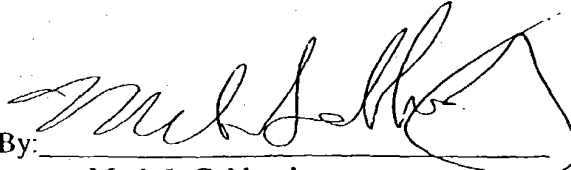

"Express Mail" mailing label number:
EL888271206US

Date of Deposit: 18 January 2002

Respectfully submitted for
Micron Technology, Inc.

By
Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.
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By:


Mark J. Gebhardt
Reg. No. 35,518
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Date

18 Jan 2002

COPYPATENT
Docket No. 150.00900101IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Wang et al.) Group Art Unit: Unknown
 Serial No.: Unassigned) Examiner: Unknown
 Filed: Herewith)
 For: METHOD OF PASSIVATING AN OXIDE SURFACE SUBJECTED TO A CONDUCTIVE MATERIAL ANNEAL

ELECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§3.71 AND 3.73 AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The undersigned, being Assignee of the entire interest in the above-identified application by virtue of an Assignment recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office as set forth below or filed herewith, hereby elects, under 37 C.F.R. §3.71, to prosecute the application to the exclusion of the inventor(s).

The Assignee hereby revokes any previous Powers of Attorney and appoints: Ann M. Muetting (Reg. No. 33,977); Kevin W. Raasch (Reg. No. 35,651); Mark J. Gebhardt (Reg. No. 35,518); Amelia A. Buharin (Reg. No. 38,835); Victoria A. Sandberg (Reg. No. 41,287); Mark A. Hollingsworth (Reg. No. 38,491); Paul B. Simboli (Reg. No. 38,616); David L. Provence (43,022); Michael L. Lynch (Reg. No. 30,871); Lia M. Pappas (Reg. No. 34,095); W. Eric Webstad (Reg. No. 35,406); Walter M. Fields (Reg. No. 37,130); Charles B. Brantley, II (Reg. No. 38,086); Susan B. Collier (Reg. No. 34, 566); Kevin D. Martin (Reg. No. 37,882); and David J. Paul (Reg. No. 34,692)

as its attorney or agent (with full powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute the application, and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, reexamination, or reissue thereof, to make alterations and amendments therein, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith, and to receive any Letters Patent.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §3.73, the undersigned certifies that the evidentiary documents have been reviewed, specifically the Assignment to Micron Technology, Inc. referenced below, and certifies that to the best of my knowledge and belief, title remains in the name of the Assignee.

Please direct all communications as follows:

Attention: Mark A. Hollingsworth
 Muetting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.
 P.O. Box 581415
 Minneapolis, MN 55458-1415
 Telephone No. (612) 305-1217

ASSIGNEE: Micron Technology, Inc.

Date: 9/21/98

By: [Signature]
 Name: Michael L. Lynch
 Title: Chief Patent Counsel

ASSIGNMENT:

X Concurrently filed herewith for recording, a copy of which is attached hereto.

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Docket 150.00900101

DECLARATION

We, Zhongze Wang, Li Li, and Yongjun Jeff Hu, declare that: (1) our respective citizenships and mailing addresses are indicated below; (2) we have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification identified below, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein; (3) we believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter in

**METHOD OF PASSIVATING AN OXIDE SURFACE SUBJECTED
TO A CONDUCTIVE MATERIAL ANNEAL**

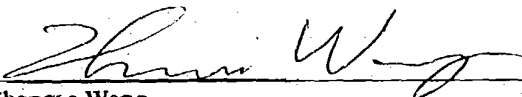
Filed: Herewith


Serial No.: Unassigned

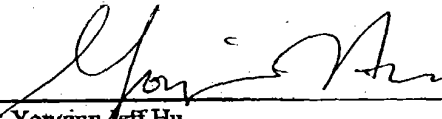
described and claimed therein and for which a patent is sought; and (4) we hereby acknowledge our duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to the patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.*

The undersigned declare further that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Wherefore, we pray that Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention described and claimed in the specification identified above and we hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification and claims, Declaration and Power of Attorney, on the date indicated below.

 9/2/98
Name: Zhongze Wang Date
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Citizenship: Peoples Republic of China

 9/2/98
Name: Li Li Date
Address: 2790 North Oldstone Way, Meridian, Idaho 83642
Citizenship: Peoples Republic of China

 9/2/98
Name: Yongjun Jeff Hu Date
Address: 2571 South Culpeper Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83709
Citizenship: ~~United States of America~~ Peoples Republic of China. *ly*

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

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(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.